



Appl. No. : 10/705,498
Applicant : Michael L. George et al.
Filed : Nov. 10, 2003
TC/A.U. : 3623
Examiner : Scott L. Jarrett
Docket No. : 31890-1000
Customer No. : 32914

Confirmation No.: 4763

<p align="center">CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 CFR 1.8a)</p> <p>I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail and in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.</p> <p>_____ Anne Ziegler (Typed name of person mailing paper)</p> <p>_____ (Signature of person mailing paper)</p> <p>Date: <u>May 18, 2005</u></p>

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Responsive to the Requirement For Information and an Information Disclosure Statement as set forth in the Office Action of November 19, 2004, Applicants submit herewith the items of information listed on the attached form PTO/SB/08B.

Applicants, including Applicant Assignee, have made a diligent effort to comply with the Requirement For Information set forth in the Office Action. An explanation for items of information not included in this Information Disclosure Statement is set out in a response to the Office Action of November 19, 2004 filed concurrently with this Information Disclosure Statement.

No inference should be made that the cited references are in fact material, are in fact prior art, or that no better art exists.

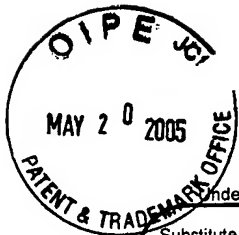
Copies of the items listed on the attached form PTO/SB/08B are enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: May 18, 2005

Michael E. Martin
Michael E. Martin
Registration No. 24,821
Agent for Applicants

Gardere Wynne Sewell LLP
1601 Elm Street, Suite 3000
Dallas, Texas 75201-4761
214-999-4052



PTO/SB/08B (08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Complete if Known

Application Number 10/705,498

Filing Date Nov. 10, 2003

First Named Inventor Michael L. George

Art Unit 3623

Examiner Name Scott L. Jarrett

Attorney Docket Number 31890-1000

Sheet 1 of 1

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
		NAHMIAS, Steven, Production and Operations Analysis, Chapter 4, © 2005, 2 pp., McGraw-Hill Irwin, NY, NY.	
		CHASE, Richard B., et al., Production and Operations Management, Manufacturing and Services, Eighth Edition, © 1998, pp. 590-591, Irwin McGraw-Hill, United States of America.	
		ROUNDY, Robin, A 98% Effective Lot-Sizing Rule For a Multi-Product, Multi-Stage Production/ Inventory Sys., Mathematics of Operations Research, Nov., 1986, pp. 699-727, Vol. 11, No. 4. The Institute of Management Sciences/Operations Research Society of America, U.S.A.	
		ROUNDY, Robin, 98% Effective Integer-Ratio Lot-Sizing for One-Warehouse Multi-Retailer Systems, Management Science, November 1985, pp. 1416-1430, Vol. 31, No. 11, U.S.A.	
		ANUPINDI, Ravi, et al., Managing Business Process Flows, Principles of Operations Management, © 2006, 1999, Pearson Education, Inc. Upper Saddle River, NJ.	
		GEORGE, Michael L., Lean Six Sigma, © 2002, McGraw Hill, NY, NY.	
		GEORGE, Michael L., Lean Six Sigma For Service, © 2003, McGraw Hill, NY, NY.	
		GEORGE, Michael L., Conquering Complexity In Your Business, © 2004, McGraw Hill, NY, NY.	

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
-----------------------	--------------------

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached. This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.